

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 were previously canceled. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 7-8 remain pending.

The specification and claim 7 have been amended to correct errors that were noticed by the Applicant, which are believed to have been a translation error that was made when the Japanese priority application was translated into English. Specifically, in three instances the phrase "beam polarization mechanism" is found in the English text of this application when the text should read "beam deflection mechanism." Looking at FIGs. 1 and 2, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the elements 40a and 40b are given to control the directions of mirrors 4a and 4b so that the path of the beam emitted by a laser 3 can be changed. Elements 40a and 40b are irrelevant to polarization. Further, in claim 7, it is obvious that the phrase "beam deflection mechanism" is correct, as the context states that this claimed element is for "enabling a beam emitted from the laser beam source to be reflected so that the beam travels in the direction almost parallel to the beam emitted from the laser beam source." Accordingly, the present amendment, which is being made to correct this translation error, presents no new matter and claims 7-8 remain allowable.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgement that claims 7-8 are allowable. Applicant's Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance are as follows: The scope of claims 7-8 should be determined separately and according to the actual language of the various claims, and not based on the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, which refers to only some of the features recited in the claims.

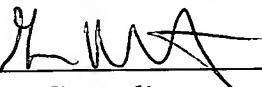
Application No. 10/612,148  
Amendment dated January 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of October 20, 2005

Docket No.: H6808.0019/P019

Allowance of the application, including claims 7-8, as amended, is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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